

Lenoir News-Topic

Volume XLIV

LENOIR, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1919

Price, Five Cents the Copy

No. 30

Real War Tank Exhibition Friday Morning

BLOWING ROCK GETTING READY FOR BIG SUMMER

Alexander Development and Other Building Operations—Turnpike in Fine Shape—Easter Passed Off Quietly

Blowing Rock, April 24.—As the warm weather approaches perhaps some of your readers will be interested in a few notes from this famous resort. The village has taken on quite a busy aspect and everybody who wants work can find something to do. The development being made by Mr. Walter L. Alexander of Charlotte is the most extensive improvement going on. He has quite a large force of men and teams building roads, planting shrubbery and carpentering. The entrance to his estate, of several hundred acres, is from Main street, about the center of the village, and about 75 feet wide, bordered on each side by large clumps of rhododendron, spruce and other evergreens, and will have an imposing rock portal. In the center of the driveway is a regular "thicket" of rhododendron, dividing it into an outward and inward passage way. The Watauga lake has been cleared of stumps and logs and is being converted into a large swimming and boating lake by raising the dam several feet and continuing the driveway across it. The Green home on the hill overlooking the village has been torn away and a pretty ten-room bungalow is being erected in its place. The fine roads over the estate, embracing several miles, are rapidly being finished and the coming summer tourist will find a splendid addition to the already famous drives around Blowing Rock. The Alexander drives will be equally as popular as the noted drives on the Cone estate, as they present some unsurpassed views and mountain scenery, and will be open to automobile travel as well as teams. Mrs. Bessie A. Patterson has been here several weeks superintending the work of moving and improving some cottages near the Methodist church, on property she recently bought.

The Kelly cottages, near the Skyland school buildings, are being taken down and new modern cottages will be erected in their places. They command one of the very finest locations on the mountain and the new structures will be quite an improvement at that place.

The Brockenborough double cottage, in the village, has been completed and will be occupied by two families this summer.

There are other minor improvements being made for the comfort of the large number of summer visitors who are expected here this season, and while the accommodations will be greater than they were last year a few more hotels and boarding houses are needed. With the improvement of the roads the auto traffic is increasing rapidly, thus overtaxing the present hotel accommodations at this place during the height of the season. And, speaking of roads, the present management of the turnpike from Lenoir to Blowing Rock have "the right man in the right place" in Will Harmon, the superintendent. The road is in very fine condition and is being improved constantly by careful and permanent work. Persons visiting the mountains now not only enjoy the fine drives but see the mountains at an especially attractive time of the year. The buds are just beginning to "swell" here on the mountains, while down on the mountain sides the bright spring verdure is contrasting with the deeper shades of the evergreens, with occasional splashes of white ash and dogwood brightening up the scene.

Easter Sunday passed quietly, barring a little excitement due to a small fire. The old home of the late Capt. J. B. Clarke, now owned by Mrs. Benjamin Green and occupied by Mr. W. M. Francum, caught fire about noon, but the flames were extinguished without much damage. The fire was on the roof and possibly started from a spark from the chimney. It was discovered before making much headway and, a number of persons being on the street, a bucket brigade was formed and the fire was soon extinguished.

Blowing Rock has an unusually large number of newly-married couples just now, all citizens of the village, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Klutz, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Talmage Hartley and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Robbins. These are all grooms and brides of only a few months, which speaks well for a town of the size of Blowing Rock, and unless "all signs fall" there will be other weddings here in the "near future."

Mr. and Mrs. James Cannon of Concord have been spending a week here, enjoying the fine golf links at Green Park, and left for their home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Martin have arrived and are getting the Martin Cottage ready for the summer.

Miss Lena Reeves, who has been visiting her sister in Richmond for several months, is expected home soon.

Republicans Resent Effort To Make Politics of Issue

We have read with interest the article of Hon. M. N. Harshaw, twice Republican member of the legislature from Caldwell county; twice more its unsuccessful nominee; twice elected as Republican solicitor from the judicial district which included Caldwell county, and for some time postmaster at Lenoir. Mr. Harshaw is the chairman of the Republican executive committee of the county and has been much honored by the party, and his views on public questions are respected by most Republicans of the county in regard to strictly political questions.

Those who sign this article have been voters of the Republican ticket all their several lives, and while they honor the judgment of Mr. Harshaw they refuse to allow or permit him to say that the road question is a political one, or that Mr. Harshaw has any right to speak for the Republican party in the matter. A committee of six waited on the county commissioners and requested the calling of the election. Three of this committee were Democrats and three Republicans. The suggestion of the appointment of the committee of this kind proceeded from a Republican. Republicans in Lenoir and all over the county favor change in the road system of Caldwell county, and as the proposition to be voted on is the best one that the law offers at the present time they favor it and are doing all in their power to insure the success of the movement. The road question is one of business and progress and has no relationship to politics. We, as Republicans, refuse to allow our judgment to be swayed by political appeal upon as great a question as the highway one is. We believe that all progressive citizens in the county, regardless of politics, should use all honest means to do their utmost to insure the success of this bond issue in the coming election.

We understand that the contention is made that the proposition ought to be vetoed by Republicans because that party has not been properly recognized in the appointment of election officials according to our count. We find upon investigation of the list of registrars and judges appointed that there are about 20 Republicans and 28 Democrats, and we do not believe that the commissioners allowed politics to enter their minds in selecting the election officials; in fact, one of the signers of this article was shown the list and approved it. We do not believe that any Republican in Caldwell county is so small as to allow a \$2 day job as officer of election to sway his judgment about a matter so vital as the road question.

We fully believe that the Republican party of Caldwell county possesses as much intelligence and patriotism as the Democratic party; that its members believe in progress to the same manner and extent as their Democratic neighbors. Mr. Hays, our national chairman, is daily insisting that the Republican party is the progressive one of the country, and we believe this to be true of Caldwell county. We hope to manifest our progressiveness by going to the polls and submitting the evidence thereof in depositing a ballot for road improvement.

Mr. Harshaw refers to Wilkes, Watauga and Avery counties as having made a failure in road building. These counties are all Republican counties and their affairs are managed and controlled by the Republican party, showing conclusively that the success or failure of road building is not a political question.

The argument that a million dollars will be expended in the payment of bonds and the interest thereon is not legitimate. The use of money has always yielded a rent from the beginning of time. The argument absolutely leaves out the consideration of the value of the investment produced by the bonds. Every borrower has to pay interest. The government of every progressive state borrows money, and census figures on wealth and debt show that the wealthiest communities in the United States are those which have pledged their resources and issued bonds for improvements. Successful men have borrowed money since the days of Abraham.

Mr. Harshaw fails to consider the benefits to be derived in the county by the expenditure of at least half a million dollars in road building in this transition period from war to peace conditions. The money that will be voted is spent at home. Our people earn it by the use of their teams and the hiring of their labor.

We are told by returned soldiers from France that had it not been for the good roads in that country Paris would have been taken before the troops could have reached the field of carnage.

The tax rate of 30 cents on the \$100 and 90 cents on the poll is not oppressive and is the maximum rate that can be charged. Free labor is abolished, making it to the interest of the poor working man.

The argument that is being made that the country man must pay the freight, or that this is a question be-

tween town and country, is unfair, untrue and misleading. The man to be most benefited is the rural citizen. No one will be benefited more than the country wage earner who now yields his labor. The citizens of the town and the county pay their taxes as do their country neighbors, and yet many of them do not travel the roads nor can one penny of the money be spent in the towns. There are cotton mills managed by Republicans in Caldwell county that do not own an automobile and do not derive one penny's benefit from road bonds, yet their managers, believing that better highways improve general business conditions, are spending their time and means for the success of this movement.

The argument was made by Mr. Harshaw two years ago that the money would be spent entirely on the larger roads of the county and the smaller roads would get no benefits. Now his argument is that the smaller roads ought not to derive any benefits because it may be that some time may elapse before the leading highways can be constructed. This argument leads nowhere and by following it out no roads would ever be built. Good things come high; roads cost money. Savages travel in mud; civilized men build roads. Mud and progress will not mix, and Republicanism does not stand for mud, and the members of the party will not be deceived by the argument that the issue is political, but will rebuke such sentiment by voting for the bonds on May 8.

T. C. ROBBINS,
T. F. SEEHORN,
W. E. STARNES.

Born
Born to Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hoover, a daughter, Mary Alice, April 18.

Doctors' Meeting
Dr. A. B. Goodman and Dr. L. H. Coffey have returned from Pinehurst, N. C., where they attended a meeting of State physicians.

Meeting of Railroad Surgeons
Dr. W. L. Pitts and Dr. A. A. Kent are in New Orleans this week attending a meeting of railroad surgeons. Mrs. Kent accompanied Dr. Kent.

Services at St. James'
There will be services at St. James' church Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m., conducted by the rector, Rev. E. N. Joyner.

Marriage Announced
Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Tilley announce the marriage of their daughter, Elma Lee, to Mr. Lucius C. Roach, on Saturday, April 19, 1919, at Clarksville, Va.

Rans Bush Improving
Rans Bush is recovering nicely from the effects of the operation at a Statesville hospital last week, according to his father, Mr. P. B. Bush, who returned from a trip to see him Sunday.

Molasses Didn't Work
A fellow working for the Lenoir Livery Company tried out some molasses in an automobile engine the other day, thinking it was cylinder oil. The results were not satisfactory, as the engine cooked the molasses into candy and stopped the whole thing.

Unusual
Tuesday the Carolina & Northwestern train No. 10 came in just a fraction of a minute ahead of schedule time. This is taken as an indication that something quite out of the ordinary is about to happen. It may be that the road will continue across the mountain now.

James Marshall at Home
Sergeant James A. Marshall arrived here Monday afternoon. He has already begun to get things in shape for starting the Harper Furniture Company. It will be in operation in the course of the next two weeks, he says.

Dr. Cullom Here Sunday
Sunday, April 27, the campaign will be launched in the Caldwell Association for the million-dollar fund for Baptist schools. Dr. W. R. Cullom of Raleigh, State manager, will speak at Lower Creek church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. In the afternoon at 2:30 there will be held in the First Baptist church of Lenoir a conference of the church managers of the association. This is a very important meeting and every church manager is urged to be present. Dr. Cullom will speak on "Christian Education" at the First Baptist church Sunday at 8 p. m.

Rev. L. W. Teague will conduct services at the Baptist church at Grandin Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Mr. Teague has recently been called to Granite Falls. He is just out of army work, where he was a chaplain. He is a graduate of Wake Forest College and is a thoroughly capable and efficient young man.

SUMMER SCHOOL AT BOONE OPENS EARLY THIS YEAR

June 3 is Day Set—Will Enable Public Schools to Complete Term by Christmas—A Prominent Citizen Dead

Boone, April 24.—It has been decided to begin the summer term of the Appalachian Training School on June 3. The school opens thus early on account of the decision of the mountain counties of this section to begin their public schools so as to get in their full six months before Christmas. The summer term will be taught for the most part by the regular teachers, the superintendent preferring to use his own trained teachers for the work. A few special ones will be added. A point worth noting here is that by the consultation of the Training School superintendent, the superintendent and school board of Avery county and the State board of examiners it has been arranged for the entire teaching force of Avery to attend the summer school at the Training School for the full six weeks instead of Avery having her teachers' institute as had been previously planned. Thus about forty teachers will come from Avery. Avery is awake and leading out in this important field of teacher training.

Ex-Sheriff David F. Beard died at his home at Valle Crucis April 17 and was buried at the old Beard burying ground on the 18th. Funeral services were conducted at the Methodist church at Valle Crucis by the pastor, assisted by Bishop Horner, after which the Masons took charge and he was buried with Masonic honors. Mr. Beard would have been 84 years old had he lived till June. He was a Confederate veteran, had been sheriff of Watauga county for a number of years, and was one of the most prominent and best loved citizens of the county. Being the age he was, he was one of the first settlers of the county and no man raised a better family than did he, as the most excellent families in Valle Crucis and vicinity will well verify, most of whom are mothered by his daughters. He raised six daughters and one son, all of whom, with twenty-eight grandchildren and the aged wife and mother, survive. One of his sayings was that he always knew where his daughters were at night.

Mrs. Sallie Bryant, wife of Col. W. L. Bryan of Boone, who was buried Tuesday last week, was the eldest woman in Boone or this immediate section, being a little more than 74½ years of age. She was one of the first inhabitants of Boone, and, in fact, of Watauga county. A large concourse of people attended the burial service. Mrs. Bryan's maiden name was Hayes, daughter of Ransome and Sallie Hayes. She married Col. Bryan in 1865 and joined the Baptist church soon afterwards and a little later moved her membership to Boone and was one of the charter members of Boone Baptist church. At the death and burial Col. Bryan himself was too sick to be at her bedside or attend her funeral.

The senior class recently set out as their class tree a purple rhododendron.

Mr. E. C. Robbins of the Linville nursery recently gave the Training School ten balsams for the campus. The school duly appreciates such generosity.

The campus of the school begins to show the coming of spring in the growing grass and blooming flowers.

Prof. Dougherty's people went to Lenoir Monday. The superintendent had come on Sunday and returned with them.

Mr. M. V. Warren of Mabel recently gave the writer two large Irish potatoes which together weighed over two pounds. You should see Mr. Warren's potatoes.

Prof. Greer, county chairman of the Victory Liberty loan, has fully organized the campaign in the county and is pushing the work for a full subscription. We feel sure that the county will have the chance to do its full part under his direction.

Miss Sue Campbell of the school faculty in a very fine talk at chapel on Saturday gave an interesting description of the Moravians during Passion Week and Easter. The talk was highly appreciated by teachers and students.

WORTHY OF ONE'S BEST ENDEAVOR

"Anyman who is interested in America at heart, who believes in his State, his country, and his nation; any man who believes in the betterment of humanity, and looks for the better side of life, who sees in life an opportunity for service and desires to see home life improved, rural life made more pleasant and attractive, as well as city life more opportune, cannot refrain from putting back of the road movement his better spirits, thoughts, energies and efforts."—A. D. Williams, in Southern Good Roads.

BATTLE SCARRED WAR MONSTER TO BE SEEN BY CALDWELL FOLKS

Tank and Crew Will Arrive Here Thursday Afternoon from Hickory and Leave Friday at Noon for Statesville; Will Demonstrate and Be on Exhibition on South Main Street in Front of Lenoir Livery Stable—Sent Here by the Government—Free to Everybody.

A real battle-scarred war tank will be in Lenoir Friday morning to give a demonstration to Lenoir and Caldwell people. The tank will be on exhibit here from late Thursday afternoon until Friday noon, when it will leave for Statesville. The tank comes to Lenoir from Hickory, where it was on exhibit Wednesday and Thursday morning. A tank crew will accompany the tank and operate it while it is here.

This is the first opportunity that Caldwell people have had to see a real tank. It will probably be the last opportunity to see one in Lenoir. The tank was one of the biggest deciding factors of the war. It was one of the things developed by the allies that had the Germans "stood." The government is sending this and other tanks over the country to show the folks at home something of the method of dealing with the German

armies. There is absolutely no charge to see the tank or any of its actions.

The news has begun to spread over the county and already much interest has been shown. Thousands of people are expected here to take advantage of the opportunity the government has offered them. The tank will be here until 12 o'clock Friday and will leave on a special car provided for it on Carolina & Northwestern train No. 9, for Statesville, where it will be on exhibition Saturday.

It was first suggested that the tank would come from Hickory to Lenoir by its own power over the county road. This plan has been discarded, as it would require some time for the slow-moving man-of-war to make the trip. It will come in on No. 10 Thursday or by special train later in the day.

Anyway, it will be here, and every man, woman and child in Caldwell county and the surrounding territory is expected to come and see it.

OAK HILL DEBATERS WILL GO TO UNIVERSITY FOR FINALS

Contrary to plans previously announced, no second preliminaries will be held throughout the State April 25 for high school debaters. Instead, those winning out in the first preliminaries will go to Chapel Hill to participate in the finals on May 1 and 2. Such is the decision reached by the University committee of the debating union, which was readily agreed to by the high schools interested. Oak Hill high school is the only school in Caldwell to send debaters this year.

Due to the war and the influenza epidemic the number of schools entering the contests this year has been cut down somewhat, and it was consequently thought best not to eliminate any more schools and thereby run the risk of making the finals less interesting than heretofore. The complete list of those winning out in the first preliminaries comprises 41 schools.

Much interest is being manifested in the various events of "high school work," as the dates, May 1 and 2, fast approach. At this time not only will the high school debaters go to Chapel Hill for the finals, but the annual high school track meet and tennis tournaments will also be staged. These events always draw hundreds of visitors to the University. Hand-some prizes will be awarded the winners of the various athletic events.

FEAR AN AGRARIAN ARMY WILL RESTORE THE KAISER

There are persistent rumors in Berlin of a plot to bring back the old regime and put either a Hohenzollern or a representative of some other royal house on the throne of Germany.

Some conjectures are that William II will return, or that Prince Henry of Prussia, the kaiser's brother, is the hope of the royalists. Most people say that the royalist plotters will not choose a Hohenzollern, but dark horses are now being groomed for the great event.

In the newspaper for several days has appeared this advertisement:

"Students, ensigns, schoolboys and cadets, your country calls you. Join the volunteer corps for the defense of the agricultural estates and farms."

This appeal to the youth of the upper classes is declared by many well-informed persons to be an attempt to gather an army for a last-ditch fight for "My monarchy" to re-establish itself.

Singing Convention

The Caldwell County Singing Convention will convene at Sardis church, Hudson, on Saturday night before the first Sunday in May. All singing classes are invited to come and take part and help make this the best convention we have had yet. Send delegates Saturday night so we can get the business all done, as we want to put in all day Sunday singing. Come early and stay all day, for there is going to be some good singing that day. Let us get better acquainted with each other and improve our singing.

Mrs. A. D. Little and little daughter left Wednesday to attend the presbyterial in Marion. From there they will go to Asheville and Brevard for a visit of several weeks.

Rev. E. N. Joyner and Rev. H. A. Dobbin left Wednesday to attend convocation at Morganton, which is meeting in Greece church, Morganton, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

HICKORY FOLKS FAVOR \$500,000 ROAD BOND ISSUE

Citizens of Hickory Thursday night went on record as favoring an issue of \$500,000 in bonds for good roads by Catawba county, provided a hard surface road is built across the county east and west and provision is made for construction of a hard surface road from Hickory to the Horseford bridge on the Catawba river, the northern edge of Catawba county. It was also urged that the county commissioners shall name the representative from each township who will administer the funds. The remainder of the \$500,000 issue, including that part received from the State and Federal governments, is to be apportioned equally among the other eight townships.

The citizens were interested more in certain much-needed hard surface roads, particularly between Newton and Hickory, and to the Caldwell county line. The general plan would include a hard surface highway from Newton to Morganton and this would take in the manufacturing districts in Highland and West Hickory.

OAK HILL COMMENCEMENT BEGINS SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Quite a few Lenoir folks plan attending the Oak Hill high school commencement, which begins Sunday afternoon with the annual sermon at 3 o'clock by Rev. W. R. Bradshaw. Monday at 8 o'clock a program by the children will be given, and Tuesday, beginning at 10 o'clock the recitation and declamation contests will be held. The annual address will be delivered at 3 in the afternoon by Dr. J. B. Craven. Tuesday night a concert will be given.

Married at Parsonage

Mr. W. Fred Sullivan and Miss Bessie M. Bryant of Hudson were married Sunday morning at the North Lenoir circuit parsonage by Rev. John M. Price, in the presence of only a few friends. The bride is a daughter of R. A. Bryant, and the groom is the son of D. S. Sullivan, all of Hudson.

At Home for Easter

Messrs. Richmond Bernhardt, A. Y. Cottrell and Olin Bradshaw of the A. and E. College, and Douglas Bernhardt of King's Business College, Raleigh, spent Sunday here with their parents. Messrs. Clyde Hedrick and Teddy Lenoir of the State University came for a few days' visit to their homes.

Revenue Officers Locate Here

Messrs. J. P. Hampton of Lansing, Ashe county, and E. L. Hedrick of Taylorsville, of the internal revenue department, have been sent to Lenoir by the department. They are here to try to round up any blockade stills that may be in this county and section. They will appreciate any information given them, and all such information will be treated with the utmost confidence.

Roger Hall Married

Mr. Roger B. Hall, who is a chemist with the American expeditionary forces, with headquarters in Paris, was married on April 19 to Miss Alice Griffin, an English lady who has resided in Paris for some time. Mr. Hall notified his mother, Mrs. J. G. Hall of Lenoir, of the event by cablegram.

There will be services at Lenoir Adventist church Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m., conducted by Rev. William Trivett of Boone.